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Attachments: Daily News Digest 120614.pdf

(See attached file: Daily News Digest 120614.pdf)

1 - BP Bid to Stop Gulf Oil Spill Payments To Get Fast Review, Appeals Court Say, BNA, 1/6/14

http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=39485711&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e4u0b7p4&split=0

BP Plc's bid to block economic-loss payments tied to the 2010 Gulf of Mexico oil spill unless the claims can be directly linked to the disaster has won fast-track consideration by an appeals court (In re Oil Spill by the Oil Rig Deepwater Horizon in the Gulf of Mexico on April 20, 2010, E.D. La., No. 10-md-02179, 12/29/13).

2- 2014 will be big for Texas environment, Star-Telegram, 1/4/14

<http://www.star-telegram.com/2014/01/04/5458825/2014-will-be-big-for-texas-environment.html>

This is already shaping up to be a big year for Texas' environment. Decisions are about to be made that will have a major impact on air quality, the Gulf Coast and Texas rivers. On Feb. 10, a federal trial will begin in Houston to decide a lawsuit brought by Environment Texas and the Sierra Club against ExxonMobil.

3 - Study backs fracking's advantages in water use, ABQ Journal, 1/6/14

<http://www.abqjournal.com/331589/biz/study-backs-frackings-advantages-in-water-use.html>

the Permian Basin, which stretches from West Texas into southeast New Mexico, was one of the first proving grounds for the drilling technique known as hydraulic fracturing.

The recent economic boom in the area can be attributed to the growth of the oil and gas industry, which produced 1,405.2 trillion British thermal units of natural gas in 2011 in the state of New Mexico, according to data from the U.S. Energy Information Administration.

4 – Texas Railroad Commission can't just tippy-toe around quakes, Star-Telegram, 1/4/14

<http://www.star-telegram.com/2014/01/04/5458804/texas-railroad-commission-cant.html>

Thursday night's town hall meeting held by Texas Railroad Commissioner David Porter in Azle couldn't have satisfied anyone who wanted answers about links between natural gas drilling and waste disposal wells and a swarm of minor earthquakes in North Texas. To be fair to Porter and the handful of Railroad Commission staff members at the meeting, they made it clear that they were there to listen and didn't have any definitive answers to offer.

5 – Texas firm to pay \$275k for illegal Shale workers, Star-Telegram, 1/4/14

<http://www.star-telegram.com/2014/01/04/5459630/texas-firm-to-pay-275k-for-illegal.html>

A Texas company doing survey work on the Marcellus Shale will forfeit \$250,000 after admitting it illegally transported and housed 19 foreign workers. The Williamsport Sun-Gazette reports that GPX/GPX USA pleaded guilty Friday to housing and transporting illegal laborers from Mexico to help perform oil and gas mapping surveys.

6 – Some states confirm water pollution from drilling, Beaumont Enterprise, 1/6/13

<http://www.beaumontenterprise.com/news/texas/article/Some-states-confirm-water-pollution-from-drilling-5115879.php>

In at least four states that have nurtured the nation's energy boom, hundreds of complaints have been made about well-water contamination from oil or gas drilling, and pollution was confirmed in a number of them, according to a review that casts doubt on industry suggestions that such problems rarely happen.

7 - Lockheed Martin targets liquefied natural gas industry to boost Michoud manufacturing Dallas Morning News, 1/3/14

http://www.nola.com/business/index.ssf/2014/01/lockheed_martin_targets_lng_ta.html

It's been nearly a year since [Gov. Bobby Jindal](#) and [Lockheed Martin Corp.](#) executives gathered at Michoud Assembly Facility in eastern New Orleans to unveil a \$3 million investment intended to save jobs at the plant after years spent manufacturing fuel tanks for NASA's now-ended space shuttle program.

8 - Earthquake solution, Star-Telegram, 1/3/14

<http://www.star-telegram.com/2014/01/03/5458750/earthquake-solution.html>

A study done at the Denver Rocky Mountain Arsenal and Rangely oil field in Colorado in the early 1960s is all the proof you need to indicate that injecting high volumes of liquid into the ground, not fracking, is causing the earthquakes in the Azle area.

9 - Study backs fracking's advantages in water use, ALBQ Journal, 1/3/14

<http://www.eenews.net/energywire/2014/01/03/stories/1059992366>

State officials left few people satisfied after a sometimes-raucous meeting to discuss a string of earthquakes that have hit near this small town in the past three months. About 850 people turned out last night for a town hall-style meeting with regulators from the Texas Railroad Commission, flanked by a state legislator and staffers.

10 – With a bit of luck, the U.S. could actually hit its 2020 climate change goals, Washington Post, 1/3/14

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/wonkblog/wp/2014/01/03/with-a-bit-of-luck-the-u-s-could-actually-hit-its-2020-climate-change-goals/>

This week, the U.S. State Department released its [2014 Climate Action Report](#), explaining how the Obama administration plans to meet its official goal of cutting U.S. greenhouse-gas emissions 17 percent below 2005 levels by 2020. That's considered a first step toward further global efforts to address climate change.

11 - EPA's watchdog covered up the agency's missteps, The Hill, 1/3/14

<http://thehill.com/blogs/congress-blog/energy-environment/194314-epas-watchdog-covered-up-the-agencys-missteps>

In December of 2010, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency issued a [rare endangerment order](#) against Range Resources for allegedly contaminating private water wells. The EPA had sampled groundwater in Parker County, Tex., and claimed that the gas had a similar composition to what Range was producing in its nearby Barnett Shale wells. A month later, state regulators held a hearing at which evidence was presented showing that Range's operations were not responsible, and that the gas found in the water wells was naturally occurring. EPA, however, refused to relent.

12 – (VIDEO) Parker County Residents Demand Answers About Earthquakes, CBS DFW, 1/3/14

<http://dfw.cbslocal.com/video/9692306-parker-county-residents-demand-answers-about-earthquakes/>

More than 800 Parker County residents pressed Commissioner David Porter of the Texas Railroad

Commission Thursday for answers about a series of minor earthquakes there. The commission regulates oil and gas operations. Angry and frustrated, many residents are fed up after experiencing 30 earthquakes in one month.

13 - Texas officials might study quakes near injection wells, Energywire, 1/6/14

<http://www.eenews.net/energywire/2014/01/06/stories/1059992407>

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14 – DOE Approves Plan to Provide \$261M For Louisiana Carbon Capture Project, BNA, 1/3/14

http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=39485707&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e4t7a8b6&split=0

The Energy Department has given final approval to provide \$261.4 million in cost-shared funding to Leucadia Energy LLC for a proposed carbon capture and sequestration project in Lake Charles, La. The department's record of decision, posted Dec. 30, paves the way for DOE to provide the funding for the Lake Charles Carbon Capture and Sequestration Project via a cooperative agreement.